THE HONORABLE ROBERT S. LASNIK 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 8 JOSEPH JEROME WILBUR, a Washington 9 resident; JEREMIAH RAY MOON, a NO. 2:11-cv-01100 RSL Washington resident; and ANGELA MARIE 10 MONTAGUE, a Washington resident, **DECLARATION OF TOBY J.** 11 individually and on behalf of all others MARSHALL IN SUPPORT OF similarly situated, PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO 12 MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER Plaintiffs, BY MOUNTAIN LAW, PLLC AND 13 **BAKER LEWIS SCHWISOW & LAWS** v. 14 CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, a Washington 15 municipal corporation; and CITY OF 16 BURLINGTON, a Washington municipal corporation, 17 Defendants. 18 19 I, Toby J. Marshall, declare as follows: 20 1. I am a member of Terrell Marshall Daudt & Willie PLLC ("TMDW") and co-21 lead counsel for Plaintiffs and Class members in the above-captioned matter. I make this 22 declaration based on personal knowledge, and I am competent to testify regarding the following 23 facts. 24 2. Given the position taken by the Cities in their motion for a trial continuance, 25 Plaintiffs issued subpoenas to Mountain Law PLLC and the Law Firm of Baker, Lewis, 26 DECLARATION OF TOBY J. MARSHALL IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER BY MOUNTAIN LAW, TERRELL MARSHALL DAUDT & WILLIE PLLC PLLC AND BAKER LEWIS SCHWISOW & LAWS - 1 936 North 34th Street, Suite 400

CASE No. 2:11-CV-01100 RSL

Seattle, Washington 98103-8869 TEL. 206.816.6603 • FAX 206.350.3528 www.tmdwlaw.com

Schwisow & Laws. *See* Dkt. No. 209-1 at 18-33. This was Plaintiffs' first subpoena to Baker Lewis and second subpoena to Mountain Law.

- 3. Plaintiffs' initial subpoena to Mountain Law was issued in June when Plaintiffs learned the firm had signed a contract with the Cities for public defense services. A copy of the subpoena can be found at Dkt. No. 209-1, pages 8-16. The responsive documents were to be produced on June 22 but at Mountain Law's request, Plaintiffs gave the firm a one-week extension. Prior to the production, counsel for Mountain Law contacted Plaintiffs' counsel and stated that there were no responsive documents for six of the requests. Mountain Law's counsel also stated that the firm was unwilling to produce some of the requested material in native form on the ground the data included information protected by the work product and attorney-client privilege. Plaintiffs' counsel agreed that Mountain Law could produce the requested information in hard copy and without protected or privileged material. Finally, Mountain Law's counsel raised concerns about the confidential nature of certain bid information and asked Plaintiffs to agree to a protective order that would shield that information from disclosure outside of the litigation. Plaintiffs consented to this, and the protective order was entered on August 27, 2012. See Dkt. No. 190.
- 4. At no point did Mountain Law assert that the initial subpoena Plaintiffs issued was burdensome or overbroad. In all, Mountain Law produced 589 pages of responsive material.
- 5. When the Cities indicated their intent to defend this case by relying in large part on the current performance of Mountain Law, Plaintiffs issued a second subpoena to the firm. A copy of the second subpoena can be found at Dkt. No. 209-1, pages 18-25.
- 6. Plaintiffs' counsel are unaware of the identity of the other jurisdictions with which Baker Lewis has relationships. Plaintiffs' counsel are also unaware of the manner in which Baker Lewis / Mountain Law is handling the caseloads from two additional jurisdictions (Mount Vernon and Burlington) with the same number of attorneys it had before the contract.

- 7. Jon Lewis, one of the founding members of Baker Lewis and Mountain Law, claims to have "worked hard to create a distinction between the entities, so that they [can] operate independently." Dkt. No. 209 at 4. Plaintiffs believe this purported distinction is superficial and designed solely to shield the entities from disclosing, among other things, the past and present involvement of their attorneys in delivering public defense services and the actual caseloads those attorneys are carrying. For example, Plaintiffs previously asked Mountain Law and its members to produce any bid proposals they have submitted to other governmental entities. *See* Dkt. No. 209-1 at 3-4 (defining "you" to include Michael Laws, Christine Baker, and Jon Lewis). Plaintiffs also asked Mountain Law and its members to produce documents showing the number of hours they have worked on public and private cases. *See id.* at 16. Though the members of the firm are under contract with Everett (and, perhaps, other jurisdictions), they refused to provide any information beyond the Cities on the ground that "Mountain Law" has not bid on other contracts and "Mountain Law" only works on public defense cases for the Cities.
- 8. Because Baker Lewis is the entity that actually bid on and was awarded the Cities' contract and because it is unclear how Baker Lewis and Mountain Law divide work between their attorneys, Plaintiffs issued a subpoena to Baker Lewis. A copy of that subpoena can be found at Dkt. No. 209-1, pages 27-33.
- 9. Plaintiffs issued the challenged subpoenas on September 11, 2012. *See* Dkt. No. 209-1 at 18, 27. Plaintiffs gave Mountain Law and Baker Lewis until September 26 (fifteen days) to respond. *See id.* On September 18, counsel for the firms called Plaintiffs' counsel and asked to extend the response deadlines. Plaintiffs' counsel agreed to move the date for Baker Lewis to October 5, but counsel were unable to grant a similar extension to Mountain Law because of the need to review responsive documents in preparation for depositions on October 1 and 2. The best Plaintiffs could offer was to extend Mountain Law's response date to September 27.

- 10. During the September 18 call, counsel for Mountain Law and Baker Lewis never expressed any objections to the subpoenas. On September 26, Mountain Law and Baker Lewis sent a "formal response" to Plaintiffs' subpoenas. This letter, which is identified as Exhibit 9 below, included six general objections, but the firms failed to provide specificity in support of their conclusory assertions or ask Plaintiffs to modify their requests (as Plaintiffs had agreed to do with the first subpoena to Mountain Law).
- 11. With respect to the communications between Plaintiffs' counsel and their Class member clients, Mountain Law and Baker Lewis sent a letter on September 21, 2012, asking counsel to explain how the communications comply with Rule 4.2 of the Rules of Professional Conduct ("RPC") (there was no mention of Rule 4.4). A copy of that letter is identified as Exhibit 10 below. A few hours later, Plaintiffs' counsel responded by providing a declaration from Professor John Strait that addressed the same issue in a related case. A copy of that response is identified as Exhibit 11 below. Counsel were unable to get an updated declaration from Professor Strait because he was on his way out of town for a vacation through October 4, 2012. When Mountain Law and Baker Lewis filed their motion, counsel requested a one-week extension to respond so that they could obtain a declaration from Professor Strait, but the request was denied. Consequently, counsel obtained the declaration of Professor Robert Aronson submitted with Plaintiffs' response.
- 12. Attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1</u> is a true and correct copy of an excerpt from the February 22, 2012 Baker Lewis Schwisow & Laws, PLLC Qualifications for Public Defense Services, labeled MT-LAW_000161.
- 13. Attached hereto as Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of the Corporation Detail for Mountain Law, PLLC from the Washington Secretary of State Corporations and Charities Division website, www.sos.wa.gov/corps/search_detail.aspx?ubi=603191405.

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1							
1	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington the						
2	foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed in Seattle, Washington, on						
3	the 3rd day of October, 2012.						
4							
5							
6	By: /s/ Toby J. Marshall, WSBA #32726						
7	Toby J. Marshall, WSBA #32726						
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	DECLARATION OF TOBY J. MARSHALL IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO MOTION						

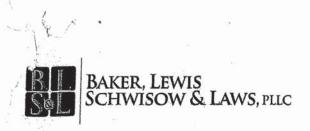
DECLARATION OF TOBY J. MARSHALL IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER BY MOUNTAIN LAW, PLLC AND BAKER LEWIS SCHWISOW & LAWS - 6 CASE No. 2:11-cv-01100 RSL

1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
2	I, Toby J. Marshall, hereby certify that on October 3, 2012, I electronically filed the
3	foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of
4	such filing to the following:
5	Kevin Rogerson, WSBA #31664
6	Email: kevinr@mountvernonwa.gov CITY OF MOUNT VERNON
7	910 Cleveland Avenue Mount Vernon, Washington 98273-4212
8	Attorneys for Defendant City of Mount Vernon, Washington
9	Scott G. Thomas, WSBA #23079
10	Email: sthomas@ci.burlington.wa.us
11	CITY OF BURLINGTON 833 South Spruce Street
12	Burlington, Washington 98233-2810
13	Attorneys for Defendant City of Burlington, Washington
14	Andrew G. Cooley, WSBA #15189
15	Email: acooley@kbmlawyers.com Jeremy W. Culumber, WSBA #35423
16	Email: jculumber@kbmlawyers.com
	Adam L. Rosenberg, WSBA #39256
17	Email: arosenberg@kbmlawyers.com
18	KEATING, BUCKLIN & MCCORMACK, INC., P.S. 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4141
19	Seattle, Washington 98104-3175
20	Attorneys for Defendants Cities of Burlington, Washington and Mount Vernon,
21	Washington
22	
23	
24	
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	DECLARATION OF TOBY J. MARSHALL IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO MOTION

DECLARATION OF TOBY J. MARSHALL IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER BY MOUNTAIN LAW, PLLC AND BAKER LEWIS SCHWISOW & LAWS - 7 CASE No. 2:11-cv-01100 RSL

1	DATED this 3rd day of October, 2012.
2	TERRELL MARSHALL DAUDT & WILLIE PLLC
3	By: /s/ Toby J. Marshall, WSBA #32726
4	Toby J. Marshall, WSBA #32726 Email: tmarshall@tmdwlaw.com
5	936 North 34th Street, Suite 400 Seattle, Washington 98103-8869
6	Telephone: (206) 816-6603
7	Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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	DECLARATION OF TOBY J. MARSHALL IN

DECLARATION OF TOBY J. MARSHALL IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER BY MOUNTAIN LAW, PLLC AND BAKER LEWIS SCHWISOW & LAWS - 8 CASE No. 2:11-cv-01100 RSL

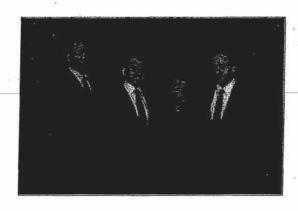


February 22, 2012

City Administrator City of Burlington 833 South Spruce Street Burlington, Washington 98233-1945

RFP - PUBLIC DEFENDER

QUALIFICATIONS FOR PUBLIC DEFENSE SERVICES



The Partners of Baker, Lewis, Schwisow & Laws presents a proposal for Public Defender Services for both the Cities of Burlington and Mt. Vernon.

Baker, Lewis, Schwisow & Laws, PLLC - Who We Are

Baker, Lewis, Schwisow & Laws, PLLC (BLSL) is a Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC) consisting of three partners: Chris Baker, Michael Laws, and Jon Lewis. A short biography of each is included below with their respective resume attached hereto. Since 2009, BLSL has contracted with the City of Everett to handle all indigent defense services. BLSL also employs five Associate Attorneys all of which are experienced and knowledgeable about the provision of indigent defense services. Over 90% of our current practice is dedicated to public defense services alone. If selected to provide legal services to Burlington and Mt. Vernon, the attorneys assigned will dedicate 100% of their practice to service the contract.

Our compliance with the terms of our agreement with the City of Everett has been very positive and well received by the authorities. We work very well with the prosecutor's office and have a trusting and professional relationship with the City Attorney, Jim Iles. None of the attorneys in

Page 1 of 8



Corporations and Charities Division

Corporations Home Nonprofit Home Charities Home Awards Public Notices Contact Info

Corporation Detail

Neither the State of Washington nor any agency, officer, or employee of the State of Washington warrants the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of any information in the Public Access System and shall not be liable for any losses caused by such reliance on the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of such information. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this information, portions may be incorrect or not current. Any person or entity who relies on information obtained from the System does so at his or her own risk

All documents filed with the Corporations Division are considered public record.

MOUNTAIN LAW, PLLC

UBI Number 603191405 PLC Category Profit Profit/Nonprofit Active/Inactive Active State Of Incorporation WA WA Filing Date 03/19/2012 **Expiration Date** 03/31/2013 **Inactive Date** Duration Perpetual Registered Agent Information Christine Baker Agent Name 2114 Riverside Drive STE Address 206 MOUNT VERNON City State WA ZIP 98273 Special Address Information Address City State Zip

Governing Persons

Title Name Address

Member Laws, Michael 1912 106th Ave SE Lake Stevens, WA

Member Baker, Christine 2463 26th Ave E Seattle, WA

Member Lewis, Jonathan 2463 26th Ave E Seattle, WA

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City of Mount Vernon City of Burlington Public Defense Services

2012 – 2013 Contract for Services April 16, 2012

WSS975196.DOC;1\00005.001006\

necessary to the case or person, or in any manner has been found to be ineffective on appeal by either an ethics panel or by an appellate court.

C. Monitoring and Evaluations:

With respect to a nonlawyer employed or retained by or associated with the Public Defender, the Public Defender shall ensure that the Public Defender has in effect measures giving reasonable assurance that the persons conduct is compatible with professional obligation of the Public Defender required under RPC 5.3 as now or hereafter amended including performing professional performance evaluations of paraprofessional staff when warranted and engaging in appropriate discipline when the Public Defender knows of specific conduct that would be a violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct. The Public Defender shall submit to the City a report of any discipline arising out of the performance of this agreement by paraprofessional staff. Subordinate attorneys may not be employed by the Public Defender to be used in the performance of this agreement unless agreed to by the parties and a systematic monitoring and evaluation of attorney performance is established

Section 6: PAYMENT

- A. The Cities shall reimburse the Public Defender for the services as specified in Section 4, Scope of Work, in accordance with the following fee schedule.
- 1. For the period from April 16, 2012 to April 30, 2012, the Cities will pay the Public Defender Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$8,750.00) within ten (10) business days of the close of the calendar month.
- 2. The Cities shall pay the Public Defender monthly within ten (10) business days of the close of the calendar month the sum of Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$17,500.00).
- 3. If, during the period April 16, 2012, to May 31, 2013, the Public Defender accrues case credits in excess of 1,000, as shown on its monthly case reportings, an excess case credit of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) will be paid for case credits in excess of the 1,000 credit cap.
- 4. The Cities shall, for internal purposes, allocate the cost of this contract fifty-three and nine tenths percent (53.9%) to Mount Vernon and forty-six and one tenth percent (46.1%) to Burlington. This allocation shall be reviewed at or about May 31, 2013 and adjusted to reflect actual usage as shown by assigned case credits.
- B. The Public Defender shall provide the Cities with a monthly report regarding case assignments twenty (20) working days after the close of each calendar month. The Public Defender shall provide a monthly report which details completed case assignments and case credits earned/claimed adjustments to credits for existing assignments, defendant's name, cause number, and resolution and/or disposition. The report shall also

H. Negotiated Agreement: The Parties acknowledge that this is a negotiated Contract, that they have had the opportunity to have this Contract reviewed by their respective legal counsel, and that the terms and conditions of this Contract are not to be construed against any Party on the basis of such Party's draftsmanship thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, in consideration of the terms, conditions, and covenants contained herein, or attached and incorporated and made a part hereof, the Parties have executed this Contract by having their representatives affix their signatures below.

PUBLIC DEFENDER		19
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Date:

By: Date:

d/b/a MOUNTAIN LAW, PLLC

APPROVED:

CITY OF MOUNT VERNON

ll Boudreau, Mayor

Approved as to Form:

W. Scott Snyder, Special Counsel

Attest:

Alicia D. Huschka, Finance Director

WSS975196.DOC;1\00005.001006\

(Hove Fatty total)
Baker/Lewis/Laws 5 3/3/97 BLSL 3/13/12
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1. Tell us about your firm, its organization and structure, and its capacity to provide indigent
defense services in MV/B. Who present today will be actively involved in providing indigent
defense services here, and what will their roles be? pros in Vakina (all 3 District Ct)
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2. Tell us about your firm's philosophy toward provision of indigent defense services.
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4. Tell us about your proposed indigent defense legal, support, and administrative staff that will
have a direct role in providing services in MV/B. What factors led to assembling this particular team? Why is your proposal the best for MV/B?
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Tell us what you know about the indigent defense service provision in MV/B?
<i>'</i>

7. Tell us how you have structured your proposal to meet MV/B specific indigent defense needs?

Value - DUI (Evereth - MH)

8. Tell us how you intend to manage the MV/B indigent defense case load, courtroom demands, and client contact both in and out of custody.

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9. Detail how you intend to perform case management and reporting - specifically how will you track and report case data to the cities. The language of the subtraction of the subtract
extent, and how will you ensure adequate indigent defense service provision in MV/B?
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Marshall Decl – 21 Case No. C11-01100 RSL

RECOMMENDATION FOR CONTRACT FOR INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES

Mount Vernon and Burlington: May 1, 2012 - December 31, 2013

The Cities of Burlington and Mount Vernon have completed a request for proposal process to select one or more providers of indigent legal defense services for the 2012 – 2013 contract period. The existing 2011 indigent defense contracts have been extended through April 30, 2012 (there are currently two separate contract attorneys providing services to the two cities).

The cities were assisted in this process by three attorneys with extensive experience in providing and/or evaluating indigent defense services in Washington. The cities engaged W. Scott Snyder to assist in development of new indigent defense standards, to develop an updated indigent defense contract, and to develop a comprehensive RFP process. Jim Feldman was engaged to conduct a review of our existing indigent defense programs and to make recommendations for improvements as needed. Patrick Hayden was engaged to assist in the review, screening, interview and selection of the firms that responded to the RFP.

Following an extensive RFP development, recruitment, screening and review process, the review team recommends that the Burlington City Council authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with the firm Baker, Lewis, Schwisow & Laws, PLLC (referred to as BLSL) to perform indigent defense services in Burlington for the period of May 1, 2012 – December 31, 2013.

The cities received six complete responses to the RFP. A response review and screening committee consisting of Bryan Harrison, W. Scott Snyder and Patrick Hayden identified two highly qualified firms for initial interview. An interview team consisting of Bryan Harrison, Eric Stendahl and Patrick Hayden performed interviews and reference checks on the two firms.

The proposed contract terms are as follows:

- Contract Period May 1, 2012 December 31, 2013
- Two separate contracts; Mount Vernon and Burlington
- Contract to be based upon the model developed by W. Scott Snyder
- Contract performance to achieve standards established by City of Mount Vernon public defense ordinance and City of Burlington public defense resolution
- BLSL to open law office in Mount Vernon or Burlington, and to locate one partner in the office, to provide two attorneys, and to provide one legal assistant/office coordinator
- Contract amount of \$210,000 per year based upon an estimate of 1,735 cases (800 Burlington / 935 Mount Vernon). Cost to be split 53.9% to Mount Vernon (\$113,190) and 46.9% to Burlington (\$96,810).
 Proposal for excess case compensation to be developed by BLSL (note: average case cost in the base bid is \$121/case)
- BLSL to bind existing partners to contract performance
- Contract to allow for some advancement of funds (no overall increase in cost) to allow for one time upfront expense associated with establishing an office here
- BLSL to work with existing providers in April 2012 to assume files

Baker, Lewis, Schwisow and Laws, PLLC is an established and highly recommended firm currently providing indigent defense services to the City of Everett. The firm specializes in provision of indigent defense services. The attorneys assigned to Burlington and Mount Vernon will not carry a private client case load. The firm will provide two attorneys that will be located 100% in Burlington / Mount Vernon, and will locate one partner in Burlington / Mount Vernon as the on-site manager. In addition, one legal assistant will be in the Burlington / Mount Vernon office. The firm is paperless, and has developed an existing detailed electronic case tracking, management and reporting system.

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From: <u>Jon Lewis</u>

To: Stendal, Eric; bryanwh@ci.burlington.wa.us

Subject: Future payments for legal services

Date: Monday, July 30, 2012 11:21:38 AM

Brian and Eric,

I sincerely hope there is a way that we can set up some sort of system where we can receive payment for our services through direct deposit. I understand that you each have a city council to answer to; however, these particular costs are very consistent and will not fluctuate from month to month.

Currently the contract calls for payment by the 10th of every month. We don't need to change that date, but if the funds can be directly deposited into out account on that date it would make this process a lot easier (on our end at least).

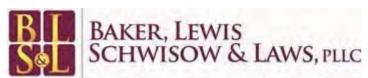
If that is not feasible, maybe we can have the checks available to be picked up in person (preferably in one location) on the 10th of each month. That way we could send a clerk over to obtain the checks and have them deposited that day.

A quick review of the upcoming months indicate that in <u>February</u>, <u>March</u>, <u>August</u>, and <u>November</u> of 2013, the 10th falls on a Saturday or Sunday. In those events, we would appreciate it if the checks could be retrieved the preceding Friday.

Once you have had the opportunity to consider these options, please contact me so we may discuss it further. I can be reached at (509) 654-6138. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Jon Lewis



1712 Pacific Avenue, Ste. 204 Everett, WA 98201 Phone: 425.512.9731

Fax: 425.322.3347

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Marshall Decl – 27 Case No. C11-01100 RSL

From: To: Cc:

Michael Laws Echavez, Vanessa; patrick@easonlaw.com Sarah Serrano

Subject: Date:

In Custody Clients Monday, September 24, 2012 1:20:30 PM

Attachr image001.png

Vanessa / Pat:

The clients below are in custody and have court October 2nd... I would like to go and visit them at the jail, but it is fairly pointless to do so until I have police reports and/or an offer to go over with them. The difficulty is that there is very little space in which to schedule time between now and 10/02/12 to go and visit them at the jail. I know that, for example, on Mr. Knott, we've only just been appointed and filed our NOA on 09/21/12 on the cases listed below. He also has 3 other matters that we represent him on where he'd bench warranted and we do have discovery on those, but again... a little bit pointless to go and try to talk to him about resolution on his cases if we don't have some type of global offer on all 6 files. Any info you can give me would help. Thanks!

MC0026392	MVM	Assault IV DV	MDL	Harper, Leron	Pending	10/2/2012 9:30 am	Pretrial Conference	6/18/2012	
2Z0333248	MVM	CRIMINAL TRESPASS 2ND DEGREE	MDL	Knott, Jesse R	Pending	10/2/2012 9:30 am	Pretrial Conference	8/22/2012	
MC0026646	MVM	CRIMINAL TRESPASS 2ND DEGREE	MDL	Knott, Jesse R	Pending	10/2/2012 9:30 am	Pretrial Conference	9/20/2012	
MC0027541	MVM	CRIMINAL TRESPASS 2ND DEGREE	MDL	Knott, Jesse R	Pending	10/2/2012 9:30 am	Pretrial Conference	8/20/2012	

Marshall Decl - 29 DEFS_002825 Case No. C11-01100 RSL

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DENNIS J. McGLOTHIN*
ANTHONY D. GIPE**
SERIN NGAI****
HUBERT A. GRISSOM***
ROBERT J. CADRANELL****
admitted to practice in Washington and Florida
**admitted to practice in Florida and Alabama
***admitted to practice in Florida and Alabama
***admitted to practice in Ivashington

ANTHONY DAVID GIPE
DIRECT DIAL: (206) 957-6453
EMAIL: anthony@olympiclaw.com

September 26, 2012

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Toby Marshall, Esq. Terrell Marshall Daudt & Willie, PLLC 936 North 34th Street, Suite 400 Seattle, WA 98103-8869

Re: USDC Case No. 2:11-cv-01100RSL

Subpoena Duces Tecum to Mountain Law PLLC

Dear Toby:

We are providing my clients' formal response to the subpoenas set for production on September 26, 2012.

Both MOUNTAIN LAW and BAKER LEWIS SCHWISOW & LAWS are third parties to this litigation, and they respectfully object to plaintiffs' September 11th subpoenas *duces tecum* as follows:

- 1. The subpoenas seek records and documents that are protected from disclosure by the attorney-client privilege and work product doctrine;
- 2. The subpoenas seek information of a confidential nature;
- 3. The subpoenas pose an undue burden and harm to these third parties and the cost to respond is unreasonable and will require unusual expense to comply;
- 4. The subpoenas interfere with these third parties' business operations and expectancies;
- 5. The subpoenas seek documents that are more readily available from alternative sources;
- 6. The subpoenas are duplicative and potentially harassing; and
- 7. It appears that two of the plaintiffs, Wilbur and Moon, are currently clients of Mountain Law. The compulsory power of the subpoena to their own current defense counsel is of course problematic and may result in disqualification of Mountain Law from representing

Case 2:11-cv-01100-RSL Document 212 Filed 10/03/12 Page 32 of 47

Mr. Toby Marshall, Esq. September 26, 2012 Page 2

them. This issue is currently being reviewed and we will advise you further upon our further review in this matter.

For the foregoing reasons, these third parties hereby object to the above-noted subpoenas, and state their intent to seek a protective order and all other relief deemed appropriate by the Court. We are scheduled to discuss these issues with your colleague on Thursday, as a precursor to filing a motion for protective order.

Further, with regard to the plaintiffs' recent acquisition of declarations from Mountain Law clients, we formally object to the *ex parte* contact. Although you provided us with a seven year old declaration from Mr. Strait, no authority has ruled that such contact is permissible, and it seems to fly in the face of RPC 4.2, and 4.4. Professor Strait's declaration does not even specifically address the facts of this current case, and it relies on a reading of "adversary" that is not in the rule. However, even if the *ex parte* contact did not technically breach the RPC's, there can be no doubt that the contact is interfering with our client's ability to perform their services. As such, if you will not agree to discontinue such practices, we will seek protective orders to stop the practice. Please be prepared to discuss this issue in our conference tomorrow.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincere Regards,

Anthony David Gipe

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DENNIS J. McGLOTHIN*
ANTHONY D. GIPE**
SERIN NGAI****
HUBERT A. GRISSOM***
ROBERT J. CADRANELL****
* admitted to practice in Washington and Florida

* admitted to practice in Washington and Florida **admitted to practice in Washington and Oregon ***admitted to practice in Florida and Alabama ****admitted to practice in Washington

ANTHONY DAVID GIPE DIRECT DIAL: (206) 957-6453 EMAIL: anthony@olympiclaw.com

September 21, 2012

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Toby Marshall, Esq. Terrell Marshall Daudt & Willie, PLLC 936 North 34th Street, Suite 400 Seattle, WA 98103-8869

Re: USDC Case No. 2:11-cv-01100RSL My Client Mountain Law PLLC

Dear Toby:

I am writing to inquire with you about a recent turn of events in the litigation that raised some serious issues regarding *ex parte* contact by your office with persons who are represented by my clients. In your firm's recent response to a motion for continuance of trial date, you filed five declarations of individuals who are currently represented by my clients.

The preparation of these declarations obviously included contact by agents of your firm with these persons, when it is known that they are currently represented by counsel. Further the topic of these declarations appears directly related to the representation of these persons by my clients. If so, this would appear to violate Rule of Professional Conduct (RPC) 4.2.

Would you be able to explain to us how you were able to have *ex parte* contact with represented people without going through counsel and advising them of such requested contact. It seems to me that the mere fact that your firm(s) may represent a class of people does not vitiate the *ex parte* contact rule. See the comments to RPC 4.2.

We invite you to inform us how these clients of Mountain Law were approached, who assisted in obtaining these declarations, and what justification supports approaching represented parties in such a fashion so that we can evaluate whether violations of the RPC occurred or not. If we do not have an immediate explanation of how these declarations were obtained, we intend to file appropriate motions for relief from the Court.

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Mr. Toby Marshall, Esq. September 21, 2012 Page 2

Please contact me directly on this matter.

Sincere Regards,

Sent without signature to avoid delay.

Anthony David Gipe

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Mr. Toby Marshall, Esq. September 21, 2012 Page 3

bcc: Clients

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936 N. 34th St, Ste 400 Seattle, WA 98103 T: 206.816.6603 F: 206.350.3528 www.tmdwlaw.com

TOBY J. MARSHALL tmarshall@tmdwlaw.com

Our File No. I-1184-001.D

September 21, 2012

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Anthony David Gipe
OLYMPIC LAW GROUP PLLP
2815 Eastlake Avenue East, Suite 170
Seattle, Washington 98102

Re: Wilbur et al. v. City of Mount Vernon, et al.

Skagit County Superior Court Cause No. 11-2-01156-1

Dear Mr. Gipe:

We write in response to your letter of today's date.

The firms that represent the certified class of indigent defendants in *Wilbur v. Mount Vernon* are entitled to speak directly with class members without obtaining the permission of Mountain Law. For several reasons, such communications do not run afoul of RPC 4.2. Enclosed for your review is a declaration from Professor John Strait that explains this.

If you have any other questions, please let us know.

Very truly yours,

TERRELL MARSHALL DAUDT & WILLIE PLLC

Toby J. Marshall

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Anthony David Gipe
OLYMPIC LAW GROUP PLLP
September 21, 2012
Page 2

Enclosure

TJM:bkk

cc: Matthew J. Zuchetto (with enclosure, via email only)
Sarah A. Dunne (with enclosure, via email only)
Nancy L. Talner (with enclosure, via email only)
James F. Williams (with enclosure, via email only)
J. Camille Fisher (with enclosure, via email only)
Breena M. Roos (with enclosure, via email only)

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Honorable Michael Cooper Date of Hearing: August 15, 2005 Time of Hearing: 9:30 a.m.

Court Use only above this line.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KITTITAS

JEFFREY BEST, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

GRANT COUNTY, etc.,

Defendant.

NO. 04-2-00189-0

DECLARATION OF JOHN A. STRAIT RE APPLICATION OF RPC 4.2 TO ACTIONS OF PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL

John A. Strait declares and states as follows:

I have been asked by plaintiffs to offer an opinion regarding the application of Washington Rule of Professional Conduct 4.2 to the actions taken by plaintiff class's counsel in preparing and researching the plaintiff class's claims against Grant County in this litigation. I have not and will not receive any compensation for this opinion.

CREDENTIALS

2. I am an Associate Professor of Law at the Seattle University School of Law with teaching responsibilities in the fields of legal ethics and legal malpractice, a position I have held since 1976. I have been licensed to practice law in Washington since 1972. My private practice includes representation of attorneys in both disciplinary and legal malpractice issues, and I have also served as an expert witness for both plaintiffs and defendants in cases involving

allegations of legal malpractice. Since 1980 I have testified on average in three legal malpractice cases per year throughout Washington. In addition to my for-fee representation and consulting, I consult on a pro bono basis at least daily with lawyers throughout the Northwest, including counsel with the Washington State Bar Office of Disciplinary Counsel, and these consultations involve a variety of ethical and malpractice issues. My consulting practice regularly involves analysis and application of minimum standards of care and the various legal and fiduciary duties owed by an attorney to his or her client and as an officer of the court and specifically on the applicability of RPC 4.2.

- 3. I have lectured throughout the United States on the subjects of legal ethics and discipline for attorneys. I have lectured to date in some 15 states, and I have participated in more than 200 CLE presentations on the law of ethics and standards for legal malpractice in Washington. In the last two years, I have lectured in more than 75 CLE presentations, most of which included material on duties owed to non-clients and as officer of the court. Many have included material on RPC 4.2.
- 4. I have testified in court as an expert witness or appeared by declaration or affidavit and have been qualified as an expert witness in the fields of legal ethics and malpractice in 16 counties in the State of Washington, and in federal district courts of Washington, Oregon, Wyoming, California, Alaska, Hawaii, New Mexico, and others. I have appeared by declaration and/or testified on duties owed to non-clients and as officer of the court in many cases applying the Washington Rules of Professional Conduct, RPC 4.2, and the standards of care for Washington attorneys.
- 5. I have published articles and performed professional research and written in this field as reflected in part in the attached curriculum vitae. I have served on the Rules of Professional Conduct Committee for the Washington State Bar Association for most of the last 15 years, and I direct a clinical program in legal discipline through Seattle University School of Law. In this clinical program, law students investigate bar complaints under my direction and I

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 make recommendations to the Washington State Bar Office of Legal Discipline on probable cause. The program was awarded the 1995 Gambrell Award by the American Bar Association for service to the profession. I also serve as Adjunct Investigative Counsel investigating Bar complaints for the Washington State Bar Association. As Adjunct Investigative Counsel, I have investigated Bar grievances involving ethical responsibilities of an attorney under RPC 4.2 and 4.3.

6. My resume, a list of some of my CLE presentations, and a list of some of the cases in which I have provided expert opinions by deposition or trial testimony are available upon request.

RPC 4.2

- 7. I understand that, in a brief filed on August 8, 2005, defendant Grant County claims that interviews of class members conducted by attorneys Chris Kerkering and Joe Morrison were conducted in bad faith and in violation of the Rule of Professional Conduct 4.2, Communications with Person Represented by Counsel. The County's claim is based upon a misunderstanding of the purpose of the prohibition contained in RPC 4.2 and of a lawyer's professional obligations.
- 8. RPC 4.2(a) prohibits lawyers from communicating with a person that is a party to the matter when that lawyer knows that person is represented by other counsel. In this case, Grant County contends that RPC 4.2(a) was violated when Mr. Kerkering and Mr. Morrison spoke with indigent felony defendants in Grant County whose cases were then pending and who were receiving public defender assistance. Grant County claims that because the felony defendants were already represented by the public defenders, plaintiff class counsel (Mr. Kerkering and Mr. Morrison) could not speak with them about any matter without permission of the public defender assigned to their case.
- However, the prohibition of RPC 4.2(a) cannot be applied in so broad a manner.
 It is limited by the scope of the representation of the attorney. In this case, the public defenders

are assigned to represent the indigent defendants with regard to the criminal charges then pending against them. Accordingly, RPC 4.2(a) would require that employees of the State of Washington and Grant County's Prosecuting Office secure the public defender's permission before speaking with the felony defendant. But where, as here, the third party attorney represents interests that are not adverse to those for which the public defender has been appointed, the public defender's permission is not required by RPC 4.2 or any other ethical consideration.

- 10. The County's interpretation of RPC 4.2 would have the absurd result of giving total control over the legal representation to the attorney for any matter whatsoever. Short of firing the attorney, the client could not seek legal guidance on even a matter unrelated to that for which the attorney had first been engaged without receiving permission from the existing legal counsel. More importantly, under the County's interpretation of RPC 4.2, the client could not seek a second opinion regarding the first attorney's performance because the reviewing attorney would be barred from speaking with the client until permission was received from the first. The County's interpretation of the rule hearkens back to the time when many attorneys considered their clients to be property whose fortunes they controlled. This is certainly no longer the case and is exactly the sort of behavior the RPCs are designed to prevent. As Mr. Kerkering and Mr. Morrison did not represent an interest adverse to that for which the public defenders were appointed, the relevant rule of professional conduct in this situation is RPC 4.3, Communication with an Unrepresented Person. This rule requires only that the attorney identify who they represent and divulge the purpose of the interview or communication.
- 11. The county does not allege that Mr. Kerkering and Mr. Morrison communicated with the indigent defendants on behalf of the State or Prosecuting Attorney. Therefore, their position was not adverse to the client's interests in the underlying criminal representation. There was no such adversity in gathering information regarding the broader claims regarding the inadequacy of indigent defense in Grant County, as raised in the Complaint and Motion for

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Class Certification. Additionally, as Kerkering and Morrison did not represent the State, it matters little what the subject matter of their conversation with the indigent defendants covered. They could have discussed the client's pending case and the appointed public defender's performance in that case without violating RPC 4.2. RPC 4.2(a) did not prohibit Mr. Kerkering and Mr. Morrison from speaking with indigent felony defendants represented by the Grant County public defenders.

12. In conclusion, ex parte contact with an individual known to be represented by legal counsel does not violate a lawyer's professional responsibility where the purpose for such contact is not adverse to the individual's interests, particularly where, as here, it is known that the scope of legal representation is strictly limited to matters unrelated to the subject of the attorney contact. There are no prohibitions on such conduct, either in the Rules of Professional Conduct, earlier ethical canons, or elsewhere.

I swear under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Seattle, Washington, this 11th day of August, 2005.

John A. Strait

DECLARATION OF JOHN A. STRAIT RE APPLICATION OF RPC 4.2 TO ACTIONS OF PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL - 5 SEA_DOCS:769437.1

GARVEY SCHUBERT A PARTHERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS eighteenth floor 1191 second avenue 1, washington 98101-1939

Morgan Witt

From: ent:

To:

Richard M. Sybrandy [rsybrandy@fidalgo.net]

Tuesday, December 09, 2008 2:57 PM

jaarstad@ci.burlington.wa.us

Cc: Subject: mwitt@fidalgo.net FW: Contract issues

Attachments:

Richard M. Sybrandy.vcf; first draft response to contract.pdf





Richard M. first draft ybrandy.vcf (450 Besponse to contra.

Hello John:

Please find attached our response to the first draft of the proposed contract. There is much in the proposed contract which is not possible for us to comply with, at least at the level of compensation we have proposed.

Furthermore, I am not comfortable with my/our financial details of the way we run our business being disclosed to anyone. Most of the deletions deal with a proposed requirement that our office report time spent on each case, and financial expenditures on our administration of the contract. We are not set up to make such reports, and it is not practically feasible.

Furthermore, as independent contractors, it would be nonsensical to do so.

The same goes for our employee performance evaluations.

Other items include our communication with clients. Clients are given our contact information and directed to contact us and given a lot of general information at the beginning of our representation. It would be extraordinary for us to be directed to initiate contact with the defendants.

Furthermore, contact with incarcerated individuals is done on an "as needed" basis. Certain individuals with complex or difficult situation are visited once we have determined their status, others, however, do not need a visit to the jail because the extent of our representation is very basic, often meaning a single hearing for probation. There are significant time/cost benefit balances that need to be done. For instance, we may know we represent a person in custody, but we have no idea what the nature of their charges are or their criminal history, and often they do not either.

Contact is useless at that point. Nevertheless, to require a visit to the jail, when their hours are truncated, and we are often turned away/made to wait for an hour because their visiting rooms are full, would make no sense, at least at the level of compensation we have proposed.

Both provisions regarding contact would serve no purpose. We rarely have any information that would be of use in any contact with the client prior to pretrial. That is not our fault, but simply a reality of the system. We most often do not get police reports or offers on cases until the day before or the day of the first pretrial. Initiating any contact prior to that, other than to determine basic contact information (which we already have) would serve no purpose, and be somewhat comical. The conversation would go something like this "hi, I am your lawyer, I know nothing about your case, we will see you in court." Surely that would serve no purpose, when the clients already have the information given to them at the very beginning of our representation.

e agree that providing both ourselves and the cities basic information regarding disposition of cases and statistics would be helpful and appropriate. It is not feasible and in some instances wholly inappropriate (possibly unethical) to require all of the information required by the proposed contract. My deletions provide a reasonable

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compromise.

Finally, the RFP noted that conflict counsel was to be paid by the cities.

That was contemplated in our proposal. Frankly, we have rarely had to use conflict counsel, perhaps once a year or less, but nevertheless, requiring us to pay would be: a) in conflict with the RFP and b) possibly a conflict of interest.

Please advise as to whether the proposed changes are acceptable and forward a new copy of our execution. Thank you.

R. Sybrandy

Not all of the information proposed to be in that report. This communication is for the intended recipient only. This communication may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law and constitutes an electronic communication within the meaning of the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510. Disclosure is strictly limited to the recipient intendedby the sender. This communication is intended for the sole use of the intended recipient and receipt by anyone other than the intended recipient does not constitute a loss of the confidential or privileged nature of the communication. If you are not the intended recipient or agent responsible for delivery, you are hereby notified that any unauthorized use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited and may subject you to criminal or civil penalty. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by email, delete the message, and destroy any copies.